

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Applicant takes notice that the drawings submitted with this application are accepted.
2. Claims 1-13 are pending in this application, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11 and 13 are rejected against prior art and/or under USC 112, and claims 4, 8 and 12 contain allowable matter.
3. Claims 2-4, 6-8 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph for lack of antecedent basis of "the axis of symmetry." However, upon review of independent claims 1, 5, 9 and 13, it is known that "the axis of symmetry" appears at lines 8, 10, 10 and 9 respectively and therefore provides antecedence for said rejected claims. The element as defined in the specification on page 13, line 17. Therefore the 112 rejection does not appear to be valid and your applicant requests withdrawal thereof.
4. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Trushkowsky alone or in view of Maitland. Examiner has explained that Trushkowsky renders the elements and their relationship in the independent claims 1, and 13 as obvious under section 103 and with Maitland, claims 5 and 9 as well. However, the present invention was described and illustrated to me, in my office conference of November 7, 1999 with the inventor Dr. Charles E. Slone, when initiating patent preparation of the parent application of this CIP, which is now issued as U.S. 6280187. Affidavits are submitted with this letter which verify that the instant invention was conceived and also reduced to practice prior to the critical date of the rejecting reference relied upon in the rejection. Therefore, applicant has dismissed the Trushkowsky reference and traversed the rejection. Independent claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 are therefore in condition for allowance and by dependency, the remainder of the claims, as well, for at least the same reasons.
5. A set of seven drawing sheets made by the inventor and submitted to my office on November 7, 1999 are enclosed herewith for exhibit.
6. Two affidavits under 37 CFR 1.131 are enclosed herewith.
7. A petition and fee for extension of time in the present response of two months is enclosed herewith. Therefore this amendment is timely filed as of the date of deposit shown below.
8. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231," on March 28, 2003 date of deposit.

Signature:


Person Mailing This Document